

CNC October Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2012

District Council representatives in attendance: Chas Redmond, (Southwest District Council and CNC Chair); Phil Shack, (North District and CNC Vice-chair); Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Chair); Laine Ross, (Downtown District and CNC Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee Chair); Irene Wall, (Northwest District Council and Neighborhood Planning Committee Chair); Tony Provine, (Northeast District); Jody Grage, (Ballard District Council); Lauren Balter, (Magnolia/QA District Council); Mat McBride, (Delridge District Council), Ed Marquez, (Greater Duwamish District Council); Sharon Sobers, (Central District Council)

Guests: Karl DeJong, Admiral Neighborhood Association; Jerry DeGriek, Mayor's Office; Susan Blaker, Tim Thompson, (WSLCB); Paul Gracy, Chas McLaughlin, (SPD West Precinct); Kiku Hayashi, Squire Park Community Council; Vien Hua, Andy Polachek, Katy Lundgren, University District; Katie Gray, Seattle Parks Department; David Gardinier, SE District CRT representative; Thomas Whitemore, Christa Dumpys, Steve Louie, Patricia Lopez, DON.

Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approval

September meeting minutes were approved as presented. Agenda items were adjusted to allow time for speakers to arrive.

NMF Large Project Award recommendations/approval

David Gardinier presented the recommendations and outlined the process followed by the CRT. Fifteen projects are recommended for award for a total of \$1.3 million. \$2.6 million is pledged in community match. There are a variety of project types. Seven projects are not being funded; the applicants did not appeal the decisions. Eight CRT meetings, open houses and tours were held. CNC member asked for list of projects not being funded. Patricia went through the projects that are not approved for funding. She explained that appeals are based on perceived discrepancies in the process, not just on being denied. CNC member praised this year's process and diversity of projects throughout city. CNC unanimously approved the recommendations. Recommendations go to Council on December 3 for final approval. List of projects has not been shared, as final approval is pending. Patricia stated it is fine to share the information with District Councils, but should indicate they have not yet received final approval. CNC member asked for copy of CRT debrief of process. Patricia stated she will send to Laine for distribution to CNC. CNC expressed appreciation of CRT's work.

Alcohol Impact Areas/Voluntary Bans

Jerry DeGriek was joined by Liquor Control Board and SPD representatives. Jerry shared a copy of the summary of the voluntary ban.

Alcohol Impact Areas are difficult to create and monitor or make changes to. City met with distributors to create an additional tool: the voluntary ban. The distributors solicit retailer participation. Three pilot projects are underway: SODO, Beacon Hill and Lake City. So far, seems to be working. Retailers may not sell individual containers of beer, malt beverage or fortified wine between 6 a.m. and 1 p.m. seven days a week. Compliance has been good. Non-compliance has been reported to Jerry in some instances. In these cases, distributors are notified and they work with the retailers to get them in compliance. Implementation began in May. Signs are posted inside of stores notifying them of the ban.

Distributors have also agreed to approach problem retailers outside the ban area to involve them in the program. Program is labor intensive, but not as intensive as AIAs.

CNC member asked how distributors worked with retailers to get them into compliance. Jerry stated city has power to renew liquor sales licenses. Community and distributors can report to the city on non-compliance. CNC member asked

how distributors would be aware of the issues. Jerry asked that community members report any problems to him and progress can be tracked.

CNC member asked if voluntary ban was not initial first step to an AIA being established. Jerry stated an AIA could be created if voluntary ban was found to be insufficient; however, voluntary ban is independent of AIA. Liquor Control Board member stated that voluntary ban eliminates the first step of establishing an AIA – determining geographic boundaries of problem area. There are further steps in establishing an AIA; voluntary ban is completely separate from AIA establishment.

CNC member asked if reports of chronic public inebriation reports have decreased during ban time. Jerry stated district coordinators have been asked to provide community feedback. CNC member asked if police are tracking. Jerry stated that SPD is tracking, but he did not have data with him. Thomas Whittemore gave anecdotal evidence that ban is working in Lake City. Businesses are selling less alcohol, but gaining other business. Workers and community feel safer.

CNC member asked about increases in theft. Jerry stated that probably reflects changes in state sales of liquor. It is an issue whether small sizes of spirits should also be included in the ban. CNC member asked about imposing a ban on all liquor sales during certain times. Liquor Control Board member stated taking property rights from retailers would be very difficult. Original AIAs focused only on serious problem areas.

CNC member asked if law against selling to an inebriated person was being enforced. Liquor Control Board member stated they would have to have reports of violations against the retailer from the community before enforcement could be done. CNC member stated that problem areas are widely known and voluntary ban should be applied throughout them. Jerry stated the city wanted to test the impact in the pilot areas before expanding.

CNC member asked about the time frame. Jerry stated retailers were notified initially in May. It took a couple of months to get everyone on board. Some retailers needed repeated contact.

CNC member asked about experience with areas where marijuana smoking is an issue. Is there an overlap? Liquor Control Board member stated they did not have information on this.

CNC member expressed concern around people going through DTs without their alcohol. How is this being addressed? Jerry stated they are trying to do outreach for services in the pilot areas.

Parks representative stated they have issues in the Downtown and Ballard parks. Park rangers do not do enforcement, but try to get visitors to obey no drinking in parks law. They can give trespass notices, which must be enforced by SPD. They have noticed high level of hard liquor being used now, where it used to be more beer.

Law Representative stated there are issues around enforcement. It is not illegal to be drunk in public. Having an open container is a crime. City does not criminalize alcoholism. Cannot arrest the way out of public drunkenness. Parks trespass notice has been strengthened.

CNC member stated in the case of drinking in the parks, he would rather see the person removed immediately, rather than use trespass notices and courts. Law stated you cannot arrest someone for being drunk. That is not how the law works.

CNC member asked if this was really a huge problem in the city. Perhaps people are overreacting to the problem. Are there data on numbers of inebriates causing problems? Thomas Whittemore stated it can cause impacts to the neighborhood, depending on the economic vitality of the neighborhood and how the neighborhood views it.

SPD representative reiterated that they can ticket for public drunkenness, but not arrest. Jerry stated that SPD does have staff that you can work with on these issues.

Steve Louie stated they had tried the Good Neighbor Agreement in Beacon Hill, but it was not successful. Voluntary ban was next step.

Jerry stated Mayor's budget for 2013 includes additional funds for outreach in the Center City area.

CNC member stated problem moves around the city, similar to moving tent city around the city. Jerry stated they are trying to connect people to treatment.

Liquor Control Board member stated they need neighbors to bring issues to their attention in order for them to do enforcement. Also work with employees to train them how to spot inebriated persons in order to not sell to them.

CNC member stated that making access to alcohol more difficult and access to treatment easier was a good thing.

CNC member stated his district was frustrated at inability to get an AIA, as they are surrounded by areas with AIAs. Liquor Control Board member stated it was a complicated process. Tacoma and Spokane have both had success with AIAs. Community has the responsibility, not the Liquor Control Board. Community can put pressure on retailers even without an AIA. Can also go voluntary ban route.

CNC member asked if voluntary ban period counted as 6-month ban necessary for AIA. Jerry stated at this point the answer is no. Liquor Control Board member reiterated that AIA process begins by identification of geographic areas by ordinance. CNC member stated she hoped the city would talk to the state about this issue.

CNC member stated that community needs city support and assistance to make bans work. It is not solely the community's responsibility. Liquor Control Board member agreed it was a partnership.

Nominating Committee- Mat McBride

Elections will be held at November meeting. Chris put together list of nominees and bios.

Chair: Phil Shack accepted nomination

Vice-chair: Ed Marquez accepted nomination

Secretary: Jody Grage accepted nomination

Neighborhood Planning Committee: Irene accepted nomination. Seeking co-chair.

Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee: Laine Ross accepted nomination

Transportation Committee: Dick Burkhardt accepted nomination. Seeking co-chair.

Budget Committee: Chris Leman accepted nomination. Bill Bradburd has agreed to serve as co-chair.

Youth and Education Committee: Sharon Sobers accepted the nomination.

CNC voted unanimously to accept the slate, with Laine and Chris recusing themselves from the vote as they are on the nominating committee.

Suggestion to change the bylaws to alter the requirement that district council chair serve as CNC representative. Also suggested to change timeline for creation of nominating committee to allow more time to prepare slate.

Committee Reports

Neighborhood Planning Committee—Irene Wall - Irene will be attending a meeting tomorrow related to proposed Transit Area designation. This will change rezone criteria, allowing rezones based on transit access. Committee will be discussing at next couple of meetings.

Budget Committee – Chris Leman –Budget letter to City Council was discussed. Ballard District Council had added some last minute recommendations. Change suggested to change wording related to printing of the budget to posting of the

budget on-line. Suggestion to add additional information related to request for crime prevention coordinators to specify one per district, plus one for translation needs. Suggestion to add listen line to Boards and Commissions request for webcasts paragraph. Irene Wall discussed budget item related to \$2 million for a parking structure at the Woodland Park Zoo. Request that this money be used instead for maintenance. Suggestion to add a line requesting that SPU extend its free fall leaf pick-up time. Chris and Jody agreed to work on wording. CNC voted unanimously to approve the letter with changes, with one abstention.

November Meeting – Nick Licata and Sally Clark will give updates on cannabis regulation proposal. Dawn Schellenberg will present update on Bicycle Master Plan.